

# TOWN OF HERNDON

*Enriching the Quality of Life and Promoting a Sense of Community*



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **HERNDON PLANNING COMMISSION MARKS NATIONAL COMMUNITY PLANNING MONTH WITH CITIZEN RECOGNITION**

Herndon, VA (October 23, 2007) – In celebration of National Community Planning Month, the Town of Herndon Planning Commission has recognized Judith W. Downer as an exemplary citizen planner.

“This national occasion gives us an opportunity to acknowledge the efforts, commitment and contribution of Judy Downer to the community planning process in Herndon,” said Carl Sivertsen, chairman of the Planning Commission. “Judy exemplifies Herndon’s proud tradition of community service through her counsel and action on planning issues.”

Downer served as the Dranesville district representative to the Fairfax County Planning Commission for eight years, from 1992 to 2000. In 2002, she joined the Town of Herndon’s Planning Commission, filling an unexpired term; she served until 2004. Site plans brought before the commission during Downer’s tenure included those for the Dominion Virginia Power Substation, the Village of Herndon Mills, the Herndon Commerce Center and Fortnightly Square. Zoning issues under consideration included the rezoning for Spring Park Station and the zoning ordinance text amendment for the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance.

“Judy brought extensive knowledge and dedication to the planning process during her time on the commission,” said Sivertsen. “And since then, she continues in her role as ‘citizen planner’ – providing thoughtful, helpful and focused viewpoints and suggestions to the commission, Community Development staff and Town Council.

“Judy Downer sets a tremendous example for citizen participation in the community planning process,” Sivertsen concluded.

National Community Planning Month is sponsored by the American Planning Association in an effort to recognize the positive impacts that planners and planning have on America’s communities. The American Planning Association is the national association for planners that advocates for good planning practices in our communities. This year’s theme of *Making Great Communities Through Planning* celebrates how communities are created.

The Town of Herndon was incorporated by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia on January 14, 1879. Located in western Fairfax County, Herndon is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest town in the Commonwealth and is home to more than 23,000 citizens. Businesses located within the Town of Herndon, which range from high tech enterprises to entrepreneurially-owned establishments, employ approximately 23,500 people. In 2006, Herndon was named one of the “best affordable suburbs” in the nation by *Business Week* Magazine.

For more information, visit the Town’s website at [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

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